

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00

OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 /138 W
----- 001096

R 040600Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6942

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, PK

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF STR DENT

REFERENCE: A) STATE 185876, B) ISLAMABAD 6914, C) ISLAMABAD 7138,

1. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES AMBASSADOR DENT TO INCLUDE
ISLAMABAD IN HIS ITINERARY NEXT FALL.

2. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO IS VIGOROUSLY PROMOTING HIS
PROPOSAL FOR A THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT WHICH BEARS
IN IT THE POTENTIAL OF MOVING PAKISTAN FROM A MODERATING
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FORCE IN THIRD WORLD FORUMS TO ONE LEANING TOWARDS THE

RADICAL CAMP. A VISIT BY AMBASSADOR DENT COULD BE VERY HELPFUL IN MAKING CLEAR WHAT THE US IS DOING IN ONE IMPORTANT AREA TO HELP LDC'S LIKE PAKISTAN.

3. THERE ARE RISKS HERE, HOWEVER, SINCE PAKISTAN HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTED WITH USG ACTIONS IN THE TRADE FIELD. AS PAKISTAN SEES IT, THE ONE SECTOR IN WHICH IT STANDS MOST TO GAIN FROM TRADE LIBERALIZATION IS TEXTILES BUT TEXTILES IS NOT BEING DISCUSSED IN MTN. PAKISTAN FEELS THAT IF THE USG REALLY WANTS TO BE HELPFUL, IT SHOULD STEADILY LIBERALIZE ITS TEXTILE QUOTAS, WITH THE GOAL OF ELIMINATING THEM ALTOGETHER. FURTHERMORE, OUR GSP LIST WAS DISAPPOINTING TO THE GOP. THEY HOPED FOR SOMETHING MORE MEANINGFUL FOR PAKISTAN AND APPROVE OF IT ONLY AS A FIRST STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THE GOP WORRIES TOO THAT TARIFF REDUCTIONS GRANTED THROUGH MTN WILL PRIMARILY BENEFIT THE DEVELOPED WORLD AND ONLY SERVE TO DILUTE WHAT LIMITED ADVANTAGES PAKISTAN HAS ACQUIRED UNDER GSP. LASTLY, THE GOP WANTS VERY MUCH TO SEE HAND-TIED CARPETS (A GROWING EXPORT) ON THE GSP LIST, AND AS THE DEPT KNOWS, HAS BEEN LOBBYING VIGOROUSLY FOR ITS INCLUSION. THUS, A VISIT BY AMBASSADOR DENT WOULD BE SEEN BY THE GOP AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESS HARD FOR FURTHER LIBERALIZATION.

3. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE AMBASSADOR'S VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL. BESIDES PROVIDING KEY GOP OFFICIALS WITH INSIGHTS ON THE GENERAL NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, IT WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPRESS UPON THE GOP THE DOMESTIC CONSTRAINTS WORKING ON THE USG AND TO EMPHASIZE THE POSITIVE MEASURES WHICH THE US HAS BEEN ABLE TO TAKE OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH HAVE BEEN SOME COURAGEOUS TRADE COMMISSION AND PRESIDENTIAL DECISIONS. WE THUS HOPE THE AMBASSADOR WILL COME.

4. FOLLOWING ARE THE SPECIFIC SUBJECTS WHICH THE GOP WOULD MOST LIKELY RAISE DURING THE AMBASSADOR'S VISIT:

A) AN APPEAL FOR HAND-TIED CARPETS TO BE INCLUDED IN GSP OR, FAILING THAT, A BETTER OFFER ON CARPETS IN MTN.1, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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?) THE PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER TEXTILE LIBERALIZATION, ALTHOUGH A USG TEXTILE TEAM WILL HAVE BEEN HERE FOR CONSULTATIONS IN AUGUST.

C) A DISCUSSION ON THE MULTI-FIBER AGREEMENT. PAKISTAN HAS STATED IT WOULD PREFER THE DEMISE OF ALL INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE AGREEMENTS TO THE CONTINUATION OF

THE PRESENT MFA. THIS IS A BARGAINING PLOY BUT THE GOP
IS SETTING THE STAGE FOR HARD BARGAINING ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS A SINGLE WORKING DAY VISIT,
PREFERABLY ANY DAY, MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY.
BYROADE

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